



Pima Council on Aging, RSVP
Cecilia Salaz, Program Director
8467 E. Broadway Blvd
Tucson, AZ 85710
520-546-2002
csalaz@pcoa.org

Pima Council on Aging, RSVP

2012- 2013

Pima County

Federal Legislative District(s): 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 14

PROGRAM FAST FACTS

Congressional District: 1, 2, & 3
State Legislative District: 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 14
Service Area by County/City: Serves all of Pima County/Tucson Metropolitan area, City of South Tucson, City of Sahuarita, Town of Oro Valley & Marana; outlying areas: Ajo, Green Valley, Picture Rocks & Catalina
Project Federal Share: \$58,920
Project Local Match: \$43,605
Community Volunteers Recruited: 360
Volunteer Hours Served: 76,805
Value of Volunteer Hours: \$1,542,244
*2011 Independent Sector Rate for the Value of a Volunteer Hour in Arizona is \$20.08

Program Activities

Healthy Futures - Volunteers provide transportation to medical appointments, grocery and social services; Medicare counselors provide assistance in Medicare eligibility, benefits and options, health insurance counseling and related insurance products; and Personal Budgeting Assistance volunteers assist low income individuals to balance their bank accounts, prepare a budget and organize bills.

Veterans – Volunteers provide resource information to veterans and their families.

Other Community Needs - RSVP volunteers serve at government agencies and non-profit organizations with emphasis' on human needs.

Community Need

Without transportation, elders are at risk for poor nutrition, lack of medical care and isolation and more expensive institutional care. More than 50% of non-drivers 65 or older stay home on any given day partially because they lack transportation options; causing them to miss doctor and health-related appointments, or unable to grocery shop and therefore become isolated in their homes. In Pima County, 21.4% of residents are 60 years and older of this population 10% are 85 and older. RSVP volunteers provide increased social ties and support for these elders to age in place by having the resources to live independently and safely in their communities.

National Priority Area and Program Performance Goals

Healthy Futures - RSVP leaders in community based stations universally agree that transportation is the number one requested service. RSVP volunteers will serve homebound older adults and/or persons with disabilities with activities such as, Medicare counseling, personal financial literacy and transportation to medical, and grocery shopping.

Seven Neighbors Care programs have gone beyond the normal menu of neighborly services (such as transportation, friendly phone calls, and caregiver relief). They have identified needs specific to their communities (such as refugee integration, grief support, safety checks, home repair, and exercise programs) and designed services to meet these needs. These grassroots leaders have valuable feedback regarding aging in place and are successful models for how communities can have an influence on their residents' quality of life. The programs also serve as pivot points for attracting resources into their communities.



Mission

Our mission is to promote dignity and respect for aging and to advocate for independence in the lives of Pima County's older adults and their families, now and for generations to come.

Vision

To improve the lives of others and strengthen our community, while fostering civic engagement through volunteer service. To connect individuals 55 years and over to rewarding service opportunities that meet critical community needs while enriching their own lives.

Partnerships

RSVP partners with organizations throughout Pima County including Neighbors Helping Neighbors programs, the Pima County Sheriff's Department, Southern Arizona Veteran's Administration Health Care System (SAVAHCS), Drexel Heights Fire District, and the Community Food Bank, to name a few. Our local supporters are Pima County Government and United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona. RSVP collaborates with the Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), Senior Companion Program (SCP) and AmeriCorps VISTA on National Service Days such as 9/11 and MLK Day and with other special events.

History

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) has been under the sponsorship of Pima Council on Aging (PCOA) since 1973. RSVP in Pima County is the only Senior Corps Program in Arizona that has continued under the same sponsor, PCOA, since its inception. RSVP provides flexibility and variety to RSVP volunteers who wish to serve in one of the many volunteer stations located throughout Pima County.

Program Impact

- During 2012-2013 360 RSVP volunteers served in over 35 volunteer stations providing over 76,805 hours of service, representing over one million dollars in savings to the Pima County Community.
- RSVP volunteers with one of the Neighbors Care Programs (Neighbors helping Neighbors) helped an 80 year old deaf client finish projects that her husband had started before he died. Her house needed more work than anticipated and the neighborhood association and Habitat for Humanity provided resources to complete the repairs on the house. She was very happy and gracious to have had these volunteers go above and beyond their normal assignments.



Other Information

PCOA's RSVP Director contacted Congressman Raul Grijalva's office requesting recognition for the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) programs in celebration of the 4th Annual Senior Corps Week on May 6-10, 2013. Congressman Grijalva issued a Proclamation for the Congressional Record recognizing the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), and Senior Companion Program (SCP) for their services and positive impact on our communities and nation.

RSVP

Lead With Experience